DETAILED ACTION

- Applicant's amendment filed on 3/26/2010 has been entered. Applicant has

  amended claims 1 and 23 and added claim 40. Currently claims 1-2, 6-8, 10-12, 14,

  17-19, 21-27 and 29-40 are pending in this application.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes

and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided

by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be

submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview

with Joseph F. Oriti on June 2, 2010.

Application should be amended as follows:

1:      (Currently Amended) A method of automating generation of a vendor-provided

        manifest that governs execution of a software object distributed by the vendor,

        the method comprising:

                creating, via a computer, a manifest configuration file (MCF) that provides

        a description of requirements to be embodied in the vendor-provided manifest,

        the description including an identity of a key file that contains a cryptographic

        key, wherein providing said identity of the key file eliminates the need to

        manually insert cryptographic key data into the vendor-provided manifest;

                parsing the MCF to create a generic representation containing substance

        specified in the MCF; and

                providing the generic representation to a manifest generation tool that

        reads the generic representation, retrieves said cryptographic key to obtain

cryptographic key data for insertion into the vendor-provided manifest, and generates the vendor-provided manifest in an eXtensible Rights Markup Language (XRML) format based on the requirements, said manifest comprising one or more rules imposed by the vendor to enable a security component to impose a permeable barrier for ensuring integrity of an address space that is used in a computer for executing the software object, the one or more rules incorporating a list of acceptable and unacceptable modules, wherein the acceptable modules are permitted to pass through the permeable barrier and are executed in the address space of the computer and the unacceptable modules are prevented from passing through the permeable barrier and unconditionally barred from being executed in the address space of the computer.

12.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium encoded with computer-executable instructions to perform a method of generating a manifest that governs the execution of a software object distributed by a vendor, the method comprising:

generating a manifest configuration file (MCF) file containing a high-level description of the manifest using human-readable syntax, wherein the high-level description comprises a vendor-specified policy configured to preclude loading of a rogue module into an address space of a computer in which the software object is to be executed;

parsing the MCF file by eliminating at least a portion of the human-readable syntax to generate a generic representation of the material contained in MCF file; and

generating a manifest based on the generic representation, the generation comprising:

including in said manifest an identification of an executable module and an indication that either:

said executable module may be loaded into said address space; or

said executable module may not be loaded into said address

space;

and

providing the generic representation to a manifest generation tool that reads the

generic representation and generates the manifest in an eXtensible Rights

Markup Language (XRML) format.

17.   (Currently Amended) A method of automating the generation of a manifest that

governs the execution of a software object, the method comprising:

creating, via a computer, a manifest configuration file (MCF) file using a

high-level description containing human-readable syntax that simplifies the

describing of the manifest and permits a vendor to specify what may be loaded

into an address space of a computer in which the software object is to be

executed, the specification referring to one or more components that are external

to the software and external to the specification;

parsing the MCF file to generate an internal data structure representing a

substance of the requirements with at least a portion of the human-readable

syntax removed; and

using a manifest generation tool that accepts the internal data structure

and automatically generates therefrom, the manifest, wherein the manifest

generation tool does at least one of a) including, in said manifest, data from one

of said one or more components; or b) computing a value based on one of said

one or more components and including the computed value in said manifest,

thereby eliminating the need for the vendor to manually insert the computed

value into the manifest; and

providing the substance of the requirements to a manifest generation tool

that reads the substance of the requirements and generates the substance of the

requirements in an eXtensible Rights Markup Language (XRML) format.

23.   (Currently Amended) A system comprising a processor for generating a manifest, the system further comprising:

a first parser implemented on the processor, the first parser configured to receive a manifest configuration file (MCF) specification in a human-readable syntax indicative of requirements for a manifest, the first parser generating therefrom, a generic representation of said requirements by removing at least a portion of the human-readable syntax, said requirements relating to what may be loaded into an address space of a software object, said specification referring to one or more components external to said software and external to said MCF specification; and

a first manifest generator that generates a manifest based on said representation and includes in said manifest information computed based on, said one or more components, the manifest configured to interoperate with a security component that imposes a permeable barrier for selectively allowing acceptable modules to be loaded into the software space of the software object and blocking unacceptable modules from being loaded into the software space thereby preventing unauthorized tampering of the one or more components; and

providing the generic representation to a manifest generation tool that reads the generic representation and generates the manifest in an eXtensible Rights Markup Language (XRML) format.

Allowable Subject Matter

2.   Claims 1-2, 6-8, 10-12, 14, 17-19, 21-27 and 29-40 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1 is allowed because the prior art does not teach the combination of

limitations as submitted and discussed in the response (see, pages 16-17, against Lao

reference) filed by applicant on 3/26/2010. Independent claims 12, 17 and 23 have been

amended to recite similar limitations for which examiner relied upon Lao to place these

independent claims also in condition of allowance. Dependent claims are allowed due to

dependency.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later

than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on

Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to YOGESH PALIWAL whose telephone number is

(571)270-1807. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00 - 5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Kim Vu can be reached on 5712723859. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Y. P./
Examiner, Art Unit 2435
                /Kimyen Vu/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2435